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# ANNUAL REPORT

*of the*

Medical Officer of Health  
for the Year 1940

J. M. WATT, M.D., D.R.C.O.G., D.C.H., D.P.H.,  
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# Summary of Statistics.

## ROTHERHAM RURAL DISTRICT

Area (acres) ... ..	28,739
Population—1931 Census (corrected) ... ..	38,734
Population—(Civilian) 1940 ... ..	40,510
Number of Inhabited Houses, Census, 1931 ... ..	8,673
Number of Persons per House, Census, 1931 ... ..	4.5
Number of Families or separate Occupiers (1931) ... ..	9,206

Years ...	1940	1939	Mean of 1929-38	Mean of 1919-28
Population (Registrar-General, 30th June) ...	40,510	40,603	40,057	37,931
Number of Inhabited Houses (31st December) ...	11,157	11,114	9,706	7,639
Rateable Value ... ..	£156,812	£153,520	£158,145	£229,399
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ... ..	£603	£593	£589	£942
BIRTHS—Number ... ..	783	845	804	1,037
Rate per 1,000 population ... ..	19.3	20.8	20.0	27.2
Ditto England and Wales ... ..	14.6	15.0	15.2	19.5
Illegitimate Births per 1,000 Infants born ...	46	38	38	41
DEATHS—Number ... ..	443	385	411	424
Nett Rate per 1,000 population ... ..	10.9	9.5	10.3	11.1
Corrected Rate for age and sex, etc. ... ..	13.4	11.7	11.8	†11.0
Death Rate England and Wales ... ..	14.3	12.1	12.1	12.3
INFANTILE MORTALITY—per 1,000 Births ...	53	54	76	90
England and Wales ... ..	55	50	61	75
Illegitimate Infants ... ..	83	31	110	*
DEATHS under 1 year ... ..	42	46	61	95
PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH—				
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	13	14	19	21
" Other " Tuberculosis ... ..	6	4	5	10
Influenza ... ..	7	5	12	16
Pneumonia ... ..	24	29	33	50
Bronchitis ... ..	47	12	17	34
Cancer ... ..	62	56	45	30
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions (Cerebral Hæmorrhage) ... ..	36	20	18	*
Heart Disease ... ..	80	76	67	31
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ... ..	9	3	9	8
Seven principal " Zymotic " Diseases ...	10	13	23	32

\* Figures not available.

†Mean for  
1925-1928

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS—continued.

Years ...	1940	1939	Mean of 1929-38	Mean of 1919-28
DEATH RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION FROM—				
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	0.32	0.34	0.47	0.55
" Other " Tuberculosis ... ..	0.15	0.10	0.12	0.26
Seven principal " Zymotic " Diseases ...	0.25	0.32	0.57	0.85
Influenza ... ..	0.17	0.12	0.30	0.43
Pneumonia ... ..	0.59	0.71	0.83	1.31
Bronchitis ... ..	1.16	0.29	0.43	0.90
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs ...	0.17	0.05	0.10	0.14
Cancer ... ..	1.53	1.37	1.12	0.80
INFECTIOUS DISEASES—Cases Notified—				
Small Pox ... ..	—	—	1	11
Diphtheria ... ..	43	18	63	27
Scarlet Fever ... ..	70	101	133	107
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—	2	5
Erysipelas ... ..	13	11	18	20
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	3	3	8
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	8	7	4	*
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	21	23	48	83
" Other " Tuberculosis ... ..	9	8	23	43
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	1	1	7	1
INFECTIOUS DISEASES—Attack Rates per 1,000 population—				
Diphtheria ... ..	1.06	0.44	1.58	0.72
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1.73	2.48	3.30	2.71
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—	0.05	0.12
Erysipelas ... ..	0.32	0.27	0.46	0.53
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	0.20	0.17	0.10	*
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	0.52	0.56	1.20	2.18
" Other " Tuberculosis ... ..	0.22	0.20	0.58	1.13
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	0.27	0.02	0.20	0.02
NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM—				
Diphtheria ... ..	5	1	8	4
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1	—	1	1
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	1	1
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	...	...
Measles ... ..	1	1	4	8
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	5	4	6
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	—	—	4	...
DEATH RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION FROM—				
Diphtheria ... ..	0.12	0.02	0.19	0.11
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0.02	—	0.03	0.02
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	0.02	0.04
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	0.01	0.00
Measles ... ..	0.02	0.02	0.11	0.22
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	0.12	0.10	0.17
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	—	—	0.11	0.01
PERCENTAGE OF DEATHS PER CASES NOTIFIED—				
Diphtheria ... ..	11.6	5.5	13.3	13.5
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1.4	—	0.6	0.7
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—	18.7	21.0

\* Figures Not Available.

TABLE I.

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates,  
and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1940.

	Rotherham Rural District	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Admini- strative County
* Rates per 1,000 Civilian Populations.					
BIRTHS :—					
Live ... ..	19.3	14.6	16.0	15.7	13.7
Still ... ..	0.84	0.55	0.64	0.55	0.44
DEATHS :					
All Causes ... ..	13.4	14.3	15.8	12.8	17.8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers } ... ..	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00
Diphtheria ... ..	0.12	0.06	0.07	0.05	0.01
Influenza ... ..	0.17	0.32	0.29	0.30	0.18
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
NOTIFICATIONS :					
Enteric ... ..	—	0.07	0.06	0.10	0.06
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	0.27	0.32	0.33	0.29	0.28
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1.73	1.63	1.53	1.57	0.82
Whooping Cough ... ..	0.64	1.34	1.29	1.35	0.22
Diphtheria ... ..	1.06	1.16	1.29	1.21	0.61
Erysipelas ... ..	0.32	0.33	0.36	0.30	0.35
Smallpox ... ..	—	0.00	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	26.56	10.24	9.23	9.99	1.78
Pneumonia ... ..	1.18	1.20	1.37	1.00	0.87
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.					
Deaths under 1 year of age	53	55	61	54	50
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ... ..	3.8	4.6	5.9	4.4	5.8
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still).					
MATERNAL MORTALITY (Ex- cluding Abortion) :					
Puerperal Infection (No. 147) ... ..	—	0.52	} Not available		
Others ... ..	3.67	1.64			
Total ... ..	3.67	2.16			
NOTIFICATIONS :					
Puerperal Fever ... ..	9.79	11.96	13.90	9.73	3.34 13.30 including Puerperal Fever
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..					

\*A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths.



## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Number of children who received a full course of protective treatment against diphtheria during 1940	...	...	302
Number of children partially immunised	...	...	5

## SCABIES TREATMENT.

Number of cases treated for scabies as Out-patients at Swallownest Isolation Hospital during 1940	...	...	30
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## NUISANCE INSPECTIONS.

Nuisances in hand at close of 1939	...	...	...	18
Number of Nuisances during 1940	...	...	...	1,170
Total requiring abatement	...	...	...	1,188
Preliminary Notices served during 1940—Informal 62 + 80 letters				
„ „ complied with	...	...	...	1,166
Statutory Notices served during 1940	...	...	...	3
„ „ complied with (2 in hand)	...	...	...	1
Total number of inspections in 1940	...	...	...	1,412
Nuisances in hand at close of 1940	...	...	...	22

## DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE.

Number of houses not connected to sewers	...	...	560
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## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Number of Privies with open middens	...	...	...	12
Number of Privies with covered middens	...	...	...	339
Number of Pan Closets	...	...	...	163
Approximate number of Water Closets	...	...	...	10,548
Number of Water Closets constructed for new houses	...	...	...	49

## WATER SUPPLY.

Number of Dwelling Houses on public supply	...	...	11,093
Number of Chemical Examinations	...	...	6
Results—Satisfactory, 6 ; Unsatisfactory, Nil.			
Number of Bacteriological Examinations	...	...	17
Results—Satisfactory, 14 ; Unsatisfactory, 3.			



### MILK SUPPLY.

Number of cowkeepers in the District	...	...	...	156
Total number of cowsheds	...	...	...	213
Number of Milk Cows (approximate)	...	...	...	1,300
Number of cowshed inspections	...	...	...	150
Number of wholesale traders registered	...	...	...	115
Number of retail milk sellers registered	...	...	...	186

### MACROSCOPICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Number of samples examined macroscopically	...	...	21
Results—Satisfactory	...	...	18
Unsatisfactory	...	...	3

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Milk.		Drugs.		Other Foods.		Total.	
Gen.	Ad.	Gen.	Ad.	Gen.	Ad.	Gen.	Ad.
114	9	3	—	9	—	126	9

As will be noted above, the 9 samples found to be adulterated were all of milk.

The extent of adulteration in three instances was so serious that proceedings were instituted against the Vendors, and with regard to the remainder Cautions were issued where deemed necessary.

### MILK (Special Designations) Orders 1936 and 1938.

#### LICENCES IN OPERATION IN 1940.

Accredited	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

#### RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Accredited—							
Satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Tuberculin Tested—							
Satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

Veterinary Inspections are carried out at least twice a year but no details of individual district inspections are given by the Ministry of Agriculture.

### MEAT INSPECTION.

#### DISTRIBUTING CENTRE (BRAMLEY).

Number of inspections made at centre ... ..	137
Number of inspections made of Farmers' and Cottagers' pigs	101
Amount of meat (chiefly offals) condemned on account of either Flukes (Distomum Hepaticum) Cirrhosis or Necrosis ... .. lbs.	236

#### OTHER FOODS.

Number of Bakehouses in District ... ..	8
Total Number of Inspections ... ..	19

### SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Number of observations made on chimneys by Inspectors of the Sheffield Rotherham and District Smoke Abate- ment Committee ... ..	123
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Work discontinued July, 1940.

**INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES, BIRTH RATES & DEATH RATES**  
**ROTHERHAM R. D., WEST RIDING ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY & ENGLAND AND WALES**  
**FOR THE YEARS 1919 - 1940**













